Kalingrad: A Very Short Introduction
Калининградская область

KU: Russian Foreign Policy, 4.11.2015
Bernadette Preben-Hansen

In 1255, the Teutonic (German) Knights founded a fortress at this site. It was named Königsberg, *Regiomontana – The Kings Mountain*

1. A Very Brief Historical Overview
   Königsberg 1255-1945
   Kaliningrad 1946-2015

2. Ideologies: Lutheranism, Communism, Orthodox Christianity

3. The enclave sandwiched by EU / NATO countries as politically dangerous

4. Infrastructure and transit: how to get in and out of Kaliningrad today

5. Putin and Kaliningrad: Russian Security Policy. The Iskander missiles

1255-1945
Königsberg in Östpreußen was German. The inhabitants were German. In WW2 the city was destroyed by Soviet forces (1942-43, 1945), the Allies and the British Royal Air force (1944).

In 1945, the Germans fled. Stalin claimed the territory at Jalta. Russia needed access to the Baltic Sea and an ice-free harbour. No Germans were left. All new inhabitants were Russian.

In the 1980s Gorbatjov and Kohl agreed on making Kaliningrad a home for the Volga Germans. Kohl tried to avoid receiving them in Germany.

In the Soviet days, the Kaliningrad region was strongly militarized. Russia is a divided country (Kaliningrad is an exclave). Exclaves are always politically dangerous. This exclave is surrounded by EU / NATO members.

Königsberg was famous for its university, founded in 1544 by Albert of Prussia, 1490-1568

Königsberg: Roßgärter Markt 1939-44

Die Fliegerbombe auf der Verkehrsinsel sollte die Bevölkerung während des Krieges daran erinnern, daß man für den Luftschutz einiges tun mußte. Es war so etwas wie ein Denkmal.

Lübeck: Schöning

http://www.bildarchiv-ostpreussen.de/

Kaliningrad
1945-2015

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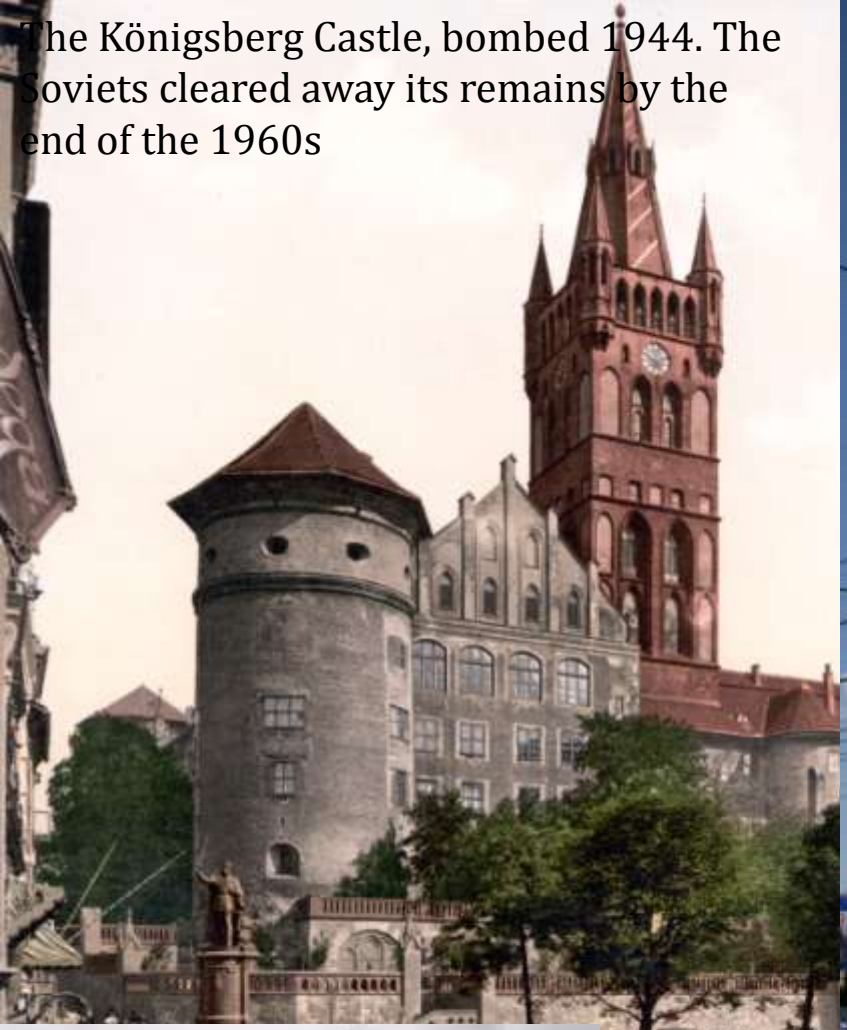
Michail Kalinin / Михаил Иванович Калинин, 1875-1946

Stalin, Lenin, Kalinin 1919

The Königsberg Castle, bombed 1944. The Soviets cleared away its remains by the end of the 1960s



"The House of Soviets" (Yulian Shvartsbreim, c. 1970). Nicknamed: "The Giant" "The Buried Robot" – an empty never used building of Soviet prestige built on the ground of the Königsberg Castle

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The Ideological Heritage. The Lutheran Cathedral was bombed in 1944
The Soviet regime did let its ruin survive … *due to the philosophers tomb*

1988

the philosophers grave

Today (2015), the cathedral has two chapels, one Lutheran, the other Russian Orthodox

Immanuel Kant

Kritik der reinen Vernunft 1781

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The Ideological Heritage: From Lenin to Orthodox Christianity

Königsberg was Lutheran, never Orthodox

Exit Lenin 2005
Храм Христа Спасителя
foundation 1995, completed 2005

Площадь победы

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Lars Grønbjerg. Kaliningrad 2014

East or West?
Berlin or Moscow?

"Everyone knows that we are separated from the rest of Russia. It's what we call ourselves – here's "us" and there's "big Russia". Unfortunately, that's the way it is. We are surrounded by friends. At least we consider them friends and often go to visit". Yelena Nesmachnaya, Kaliningradka Newspaper. Putins pressekonference, 18.12.2014 http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/47250

The Kaliningrad region and the question of loyalty in the younger generations? Where do they wish to travel?

A young man with his Schengen-visa, giving access to Poland, Germany, Lithuania and even to Spain.

Infrastructure and Transit: How to get in and out of Kaliningrad

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Infrastructure and Transit: How to get in and out of Kaliningrad

An exclave exists when a country falls in two parts so that traffic <u>over land</u> between them requires passage through another sovereign country

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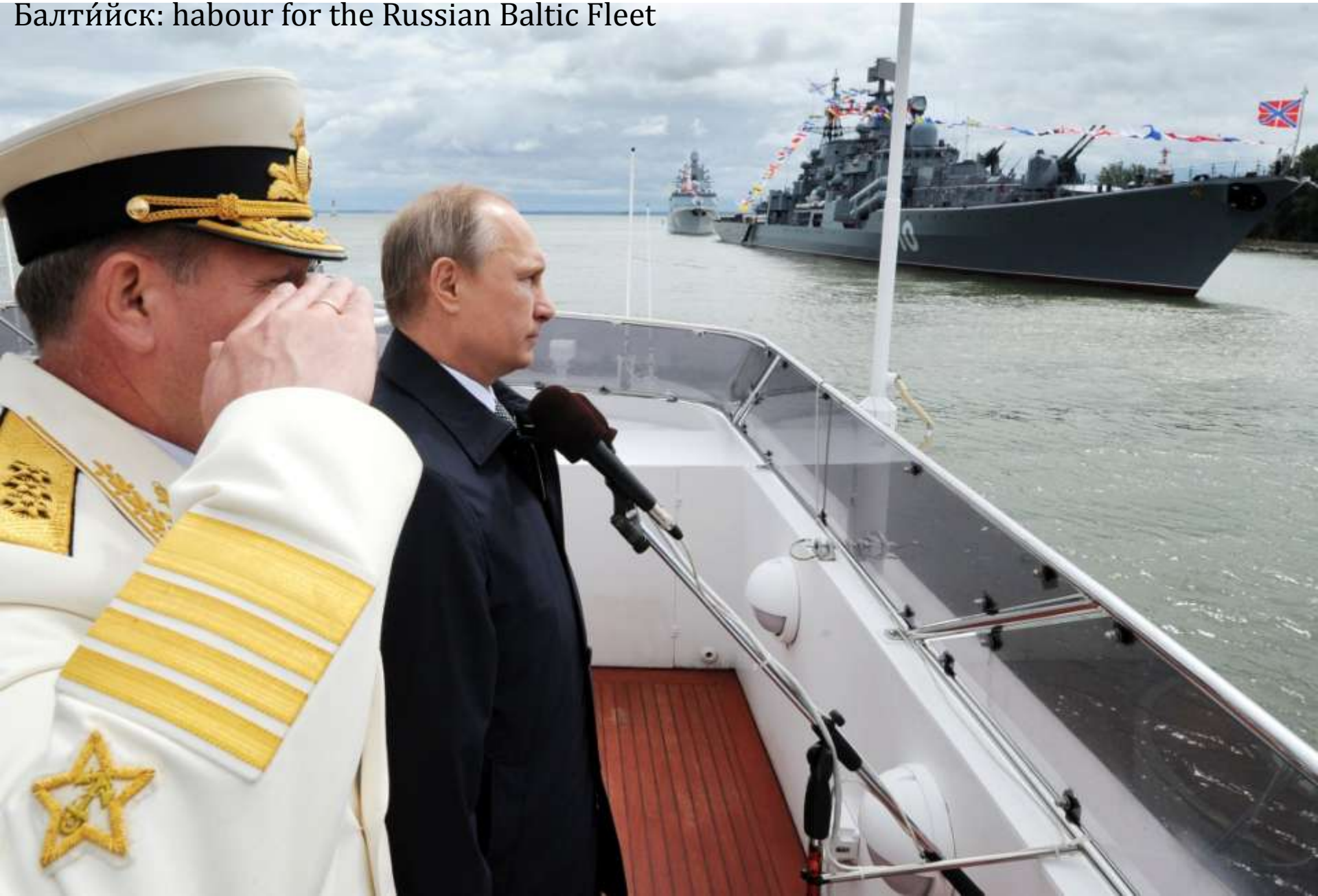
The enlargement of the EU in 2004 turned Kaliningrad Oblast into a Russian exclave in the EU. This politicaly dangerous exclave is so to speak “sandwiched” by EU/NATO countries.

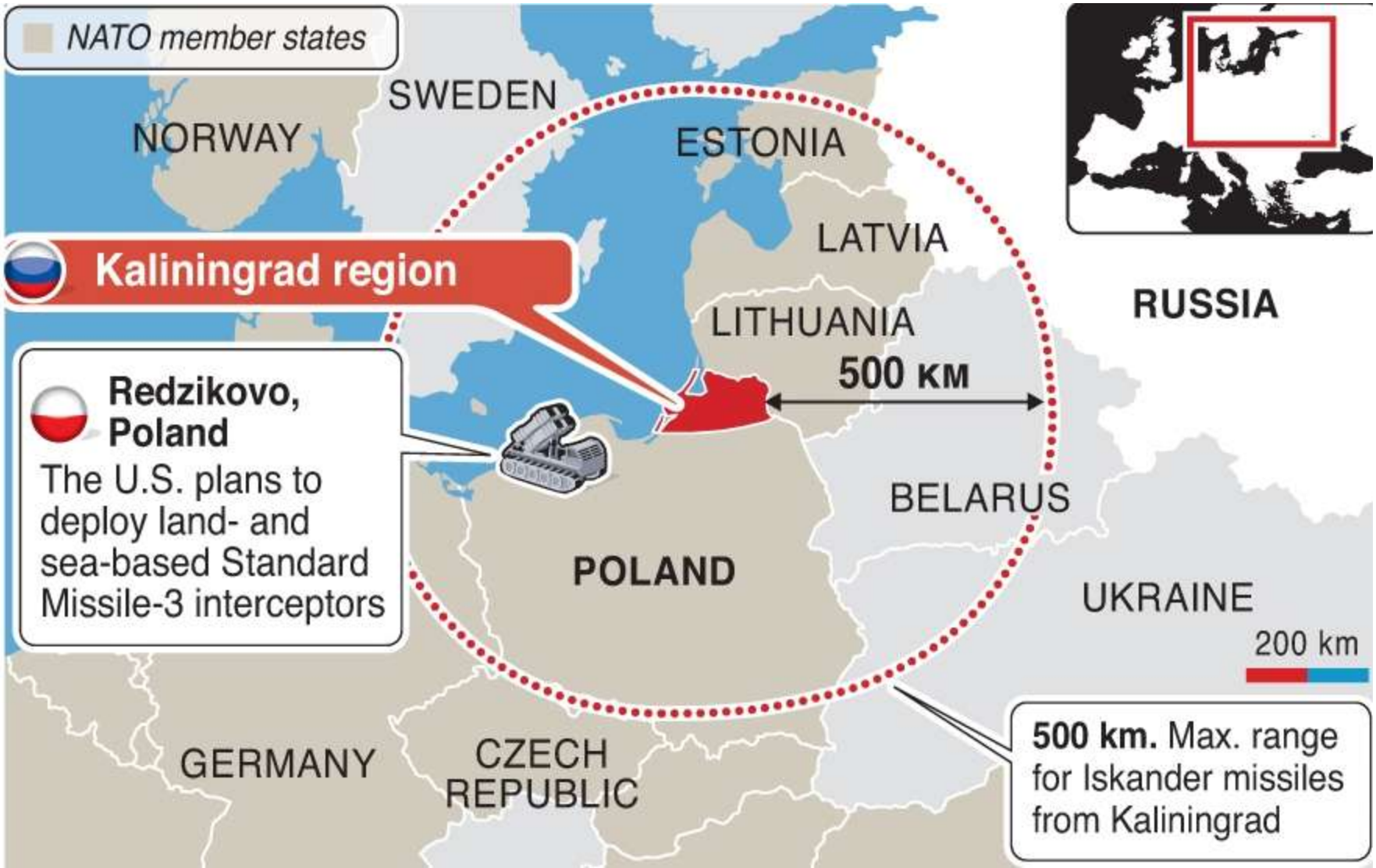
Балти́йск: habour for the Russian Baltic Fleet



Putin and the Kaliningrad region

Nikolai Tsukanov

Brzezinski: US Should Deploy Troops to Baltics (Jan. 2015)



The Iskander missils

Valdai International Discussion Club.
Societies Between War and Peace:
Overcoming the Logic of Conflict in Tomorrow's World

No news from Putin! 22.10.2015

“Postcard” from Kaliningrad of today